FISCAL NOTE

SB 1229

March 29, 2001

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires an annual permit fee of \$1,000, in addition to a commercial fishing license, before a commercial fisherman may take, possess, transport, sell or barter paddlefish or parts thereof. Establishes a Class A misdemeanor for fishing for paddlefish without a commercial paddlefish permit.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenues - \$36,000

Increase Local Govt. Revenues - Not Significant Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant

Currently commercial fishermen harvesting paddlefish are required to have a free paddlefish permit issued by the agency. Last year there were 40 of these permits issued. Estimate assumes if 90% continue, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency will sell approximately 36 of these \$1,000 permits.

Impact depends upon the number of persons convicted of this offense and the resulting increased cost to local governments to confine such persons versus the increased revenues to local governments from fines levied and collected under the provisions of this bill.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James A. Davenport, Executive Director

James a. Lovengo